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ethical theories of a vast number of human races, but for their clear declarations of the influence of the world of mind—the spiritual—over the world of matter. They are to be commended to every careful student of human thought.

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Hosmer, J. K. *The Appeal to Arms, 1861-1863* (The American Nation: A History. Volume 20). Pp. xvi, 354. Price, \$2.00. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1906.

The purpose of this volume, so the editor states in the introduction, is to furnish a civil and military history of the Civil War, which shall be at once "brief, compact and impartial." The volume opens with a short discussion of the resources of both sides, which is followed by a series of brief sketches of the leaders, federal and confederate. Next, the author takes up the military side of the Civil War, campaign by campaign, from Manassas to Gettysburg. Very little attention is paid to other than military affairs. There is one chapter on emancipation, and another—the last one—on foreign affairs. Scattered throughout the text are found pages or paragraphs here and there about social, economic and political affairs, though generally these are neglected. It is possible, however, that the author intends to treat them in his second volume.

As a military history, the work is very good. The style is clear and non-technical, and is easily understood. Since the author deals only with essentials, the reader is not lost in a multitude of details about minor movements and matters of controversy. The author indulges in few sweeping judgments; in this respect the work is much superior to the previous volume by Admiral Chadwick. Dr. Hosmer has an eye to the picturesque whether in man or events, and usually makes the most of what he sees of this kind.

A point which the author rightly insists upon is that the great leaders of both sides had to learn how to fight, that all of them did some poor "prentice work." This fact is often forgotten in judging the early mistakes of the great commanders. The author is fair and judicial in his estimates of the leaders on both sides, whether successful or unsuccessful. In a discussion about the value of a West Point training, he decides that it had some value, though evidently, in his view, not a great deal. On the southern side he says that Forrest was the only conspicuous leader who came from civil life. He had "some of the qualities of a great commander." No ex-Confederate could describe better the military career of Lee or of Jackson. The author's criticism of Lee's mistakes is the most convincing that the reviewer remembers ever to have read.

Some points deserve slight criticism. The author does not seem to have a very clear understanding of internal conditions in the South. This leads him to believe in the theory about the dictatorship of Davis (p. 250), the efficiency of the conscription laws (p. 174), and in general, causes him to accept

at their face value the laws and regulations of the Confederacy. A careful study of internal conditions in the South will not justify such an acceptance. He seems to accept the tradition about a closed aristocracy in the South (p. 7). Some objection might reasonably be made to the comparison between Stonewall Jackson and John Brown, and the "craziness" of Jackson is entirely too much insisted upon. Dr. Hosmer served in the war as a soldier, and to him the Confederates were rebels and the war a rebellion, not a civil war, and on technical matters this is still his view. This conviction results in no biased statement of facts, but it does result sometimes in a one-sided attitude towards certain events. For instance, throughout the work he insists upon the fact that the Confederates sequestered the property of northern enemies, and treats the policy of confiscation rather mildly as one of retaliation. Also the demand of the Confederacy that all its people take one side or the other is called a persecution of the Unionists, while nothing is said of similar treatment of Confederate sympathizers in the North. This view leads the author, when speaking of Robert E. Lee, to say that he "forfeited his allegiance," "sacrificed his loyalty." However, these opinions as to the fundamental nature of the contest do not effect treatment of the period in any other way.

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**Jameson, J. Franklin** (General Editor). *Original Narratives of Early American History*. Vol. I, Olson, Julius E., and Bourne, Edward Gaylord (Editors). The Northmen, Columbus, and Cabot, 985-1503, Pp. xv, 443. Vol. II, Hodge, Frederick W., and Lewis, Theodore E. (Editors). Spanish Explorers in the Southern United States, 1528-1543. Pp. xv, 411. Vol. III, Burrage, Henry S. (Editor). Early English and French Voyages, 1534-1608. Pp. xxii, 451. Price, \$3.00 per volume. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1906-07.

These volumes are the first of a series planned and reproduced under the auspices of the American Historical Association. The purpose of the series, as stated by Dr. Jameson in his general preface, is to render accessible to individual readers, libraries, schools and colleges a comprehensive and well-rounded collection of those classical narratives on which the early history of the United States is founded. The justification for such an undertaking is obvious. The scarcity of the early imprints of these pioneer narrations, or the expensive character of many of the limited editions of reprints, has rendered it impossible for the ordinary library to possess an adequate collection of the great narrative sources of American history. This series aims "to restore to their rightful position" these authorities, by issuing their narratives in a convenient and inexpensive form. The plan contemplates the publication of whole works or distinct parts of works, and hence differs from the volumes of extracts from the sources already available, which have been compiled chiefly for class use.

The three volumes already published reveal the success with which the